

Date: Thu, 11 Mar 93 01:49:30 PST
From: Info-Hams Mailing List and Newsgroup <info-hams@ucsd.edu>
Errors-To: Info-Hams-Errors@UCSD.Edu
Reply-To: Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu
Precedence: Bulk
Subject: Info-Hams Digest V93 #302
To: Info-Hams

Info-Hams Digest Thu, 11 Mar 93 Volume 93 : Issue 302

Today's Topics:

 A pair of coax <-> ladder line ???
 China on WARC bands
 DOVE-17
 FT530 owners... DC plug?
 Ham Radio Outlet incident (2 msgs)
 How do I ground the antenna?
 J-pole for Satellite
 Motorola HT-220 Mod help needed.
 Old Satellite Dish
 PC Software for Code Practice
 Receiver Sensitivity figures
 Rubber radios? (was Re: Periphex Doesn't Suck)
 source for spools of wire (3 msgs)
 Wanted Swan 508 or 510 VFO

Send Replies or notes for publication to: <Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu>
Send subscription requests to: <Info-Hams-REQUEST@UCSD.Edu>
Problems you can't solve otherwise to brian@ucsd.edu.

Archives of past issues of the Info-Hams Digest are available
(by FTP only) from UCSD.Edu in directory "mailarchives/info-hams".

We trust that readers are intelligent enough to realize that all text
herein consists of personal comments and does not represent the official
policies or positions of any party. Your mileage may vary. So there.

Date: Wed, 10 Mar 1993 20:02:00 GMT
From: dog.ee.lbl.gov!pasteur!agate!howland.reston.ans.net!zaphod.mps.ohio-
state.edu!sdd.hp.com!hpscit.sc.hp.com!hplextra!hpl-opus!hpnmdla!
alanb@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: A pair of coax <-> ladder line ???
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In rec.radio.amateur.misc, gcouger@olesun.okstate.edu (Gordon Cougar) writes:

>In article <14570686@hpnmdla.sr.hp.com> alanb@hpnmdla.sr.hp.com (Alan Bloom) writes:

>>In rec.radio.amateur.misc, kip@utxvms.cc.utexas.edu writes:

>>

>>>Is this true? Can I really hook such an arrangement up to a random length
^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^

>>>vertical and a ground plane, put a transmatch in my shack, and get good
>>>performance?

>>

>>Except that the ground plane antenna is UNbalanced and low impedance.

>>For that you want a single coax.

>>

...

>Using open wire for UNbalanced antennas has been done since the ZEPP
>that might be more familiar as a J Pole.

Yeah, I missed the part about the vertical being random length. Even so, there would be no advantage to using two coaxes in a balanced configuration. The loss would be about the same as a single coax. And, all other things being equal, an unbalanced (coax) feedline is better than balanced for an unbalanced antenna, even if non-resonant.

AL N1AL

Date: Thu, 11 Mar 1993 05:03:27 GMT

From: pacbell.com!att-out!cbfsb!cbnewsb.cb.att.com!wa2ise@network.UCSD.EDU

Subject: China on WARC bands

To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

copied from packet:

Msg# TSF Size #Rd Date Time From MsgID To
37350 BF 1592 0 05-Mar 2000 BY1QH BULL004BY1QH DX@USBBS ()

Sb: CHINA ON WARC BANDS

BY1QH, TSINGHUA UNIVERSITY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB (TUARC)

TSINGHUA UNIVERSITY, BEIJING 100084

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS

ALMOST THE VERY FIRST TIME, CHINA IS NOW ON WARC BANDS. BY1QH WILL APPEAR ON 12 AND 17 METERS SSB FREQUENTLY WITH A KENWOOD TS-440S (100W BAREFOOT) AND A GROUNDPLANE VERTICAL ANTENNA. SORRY CW ON 12/17/30 METERS IS NOT AVAILABLE AT THIS MOMENT. WONNA ESTABLISH A SKED, GENTLEMAN? OR DO YOU HAVE ANY OTHER REQUEST? FOR MORE INFO, READ THE BIWEEKLY AMTOR/PACKET NEWSLETTER 'CHINA HAM NEWS' DISTRIBUTED WORLDWIDE, OR AT THIS

ADDRESS:

RICK HUNTER, PUBLIC RELATIONS MANAGER OF TUARC

ROOM 316 BUILDING 25

TSINGHUA UNIVERSITY

BEIJING 100084, CHINA

THANK YOU FOR READING THIS BULLETIN. WILL SEE YOU ON THE AIR.

73, RICK

BY1QH AT BV5AG.#APL.#CHA.TWN.CHN.AS / JA5TX.JPN.AS

VE7CIZ.#VANC.BC.CAN.NA ***

Date: 10 Mar 93 23:48:05 GMT

From: usc!howland.reston.ans.net!agate!stanford.edu!unix!clipper!

brian@network.UCSD.EDU

Subject: DOVE-17

To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Greetings;

I'm going on a camping trip this weekend (13th) with my son and his Weblos pack. I was thinking that it would make a neat activity to listen for the DOVE-17 satellite on 2M.

I have the N3EM0 v2.21 tracking program and I downloaded a set of orbital elements from archive.afit.af.mil. It looks like there will be a pass more than 30 degrees above the horizon on Saturday night. My information on the satellites is old so, I have a few questions:

Does the DO-17 microsat have an active voice output on 145.825 at all times?

Does anyone use this tracking program? Can I trust it's accuracy?

How difficult will it be to receive?

I am considering three antenna possibilities. I have a 5/8 wave mag mount on the car or, I can build a dipole or yagi. I have a small inline preamp available.

The rig is a handheld Yasu FT750. This rig is a dual-bander. Are there beacons I can listen for from the other microsats on 70 cm?

I'm going to listen with the 5/8 wave tonight and see if I hear anything. I suppose my surest bet is to start making a simple yagi. Any advice will be

appreciated.

- Brian - Wb6lhh -

Date: 10 Mar 1993 22:27:05 GMT
From: sun-barr!news2me.EBay.Sun.COM!exodus.Eng.Sun.COM!appserv.Eng.Sun.COM!zule!
dlp@ames.arpa
Subject: FT530 owners... DC plug?
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <C3ouED.F3v@feenix.metronet.com>, marcbg@feenix.metronet.com (Marc Grant) writes:

|> In article <19130026@hp-ptp.ptp.hp.com> johns@hp-ptp.ptp.hp.com
|> (John Schubert) writes:
|> >Do any of you have a source for the dc power plug used on the FT530? (or did
|> >you all give up and pay \$20 for the DC cord??) It appears to be something
|> like
|> >3.5mm OD and 1.6mm ID, but I can't find a source...
|>
|> John,
|> I've found a compatible plug at Radio Shack for about \$2.00
|> --

The Radio Shack connectors work, but I've had 3 fail mechanically producing a short circuit. At this point I avoid Radio Shack for all coaxial power connectors.

One suggestion is to buy the Alinco universal power cable. It is doubly fused and has a nice molded connector on one end, nothing on the other end. Of course I believe the sleeve is hot on your Yaesu so you will need to take note of that when putting the appropriate connector on the cable for your power source.

--
73

Dan Pritchett | ARPA/Internet: dlp@zule.Eng.Sun.COM
SunSoft Desktop Prod. Tools | GENie: D.PRITCHET3
| Packet: KM6PR@NOARY.#NOCAL.CA.USA.NA

I used to think that I was cool.
Running around on fossil fuel.
Until I saw what I was doing.

Was driving down the road to ruin.
James Taylor

Date: Wed, 10 Mar 1993 09:48:33 GMT
From: valinor.mythical.com!n5ial!jim@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Ham Radio Outlet incident
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <randall.731623999@seashore> randall@informix.com
(Randall Rhea) writes:

> A very interesting thing happened to me at Ham Radio Outlet in
> Sunnyvale last week.

[very strange story deleted]

> The only thing critical about my article was my
> indication of continued displeasure over HRO's failure to put prices
> on their parts and accessories.

aren't they the store that sends out a whole catalog full of stuff,
but not a single price anywhere in there? (can't say for sure, because
if they are, their catalogs are all in the trash....)

I have a simple policy on that---if they don't tell you the price, they
are probably trying to hide something (until you get to the counter),
and I just don't bother. if they don't have prices on anything in the
store, I'd never go to that store. I'll go to another store, or buy via
mail order...either way, I'd buy from somewhere else.....

> I don't like having to wait in line
> at the counter just to find out about prices for items that are on
> the shelf, and neither does any other customer.

you shouldn't have to. the lack of a price on something is fine if it's
the exception (and therefore probably an accident), but if nothing else,
there should be a tag on the SHELF saying how much that item is (there
need not be a price on every item in the store...just a visible price FOR
every item in the store).

when I get a catalog from any Amateur Radio shops that say call for
prices on everything, it either gets filed in the trash, or if I'm
at my dad's place, in his fireplace. :-)

--jim

--

#include <std_disclaimer.h>

73 DE N5IAL (/4)

INTERNET: jim@n5ial.mythical.com | j.graham@ieee.org ICBM: 30.23N 86.32W
AMATEUR RADIO: n5ial@w4zbb (Ft. Walton Beach, FL) AMTOR SELCAL: NIAL

E-mail me for information about KAMterm (host mode for Kantronics TNCs).

Date: Wed, 10 Mar 1993 23:15:41 EST
From: anomaly.sbs.com!n1mpq!news@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Ham Radio Outlet incident
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

randall@informix.com (Randall Rhea) writes:

> The only thing critical about my article was my indication of continued
> displeasure over HRO's failure to put prices on their parts and accessories.
> I don't like having to wait in line at the counter just to find out about
> prices for items that are on the shelf, and neither does any other customer.
> I also mentioned that their main competitor in the area (Quement
> Electronics) was better for parts (they post prices and have a better
> stock), but that their prices were higher on rigs.

I always wondered why they do things like that. Is it because they want
to be able to adjust the prices without you knowing it? Could be, could
be.

> So then I thought, was I being unfair to HRO in my article? I
> certainly appreciate the fact that HRO is there. I go there all the
> time, and I have spent about \$3000 there over the past couple of
> years, so I suppose and can be catagorized as a frequent customer.
> Maybe I could get a better price mail-order, but I want to patronize
> the local business. I also worked for Radio Shack for several
> years, so I know first-hand the trials and tribulations of
> retailers. Should I appreciate the fact that "volunteers" work
> behind the counter on Saturday?

Nope. Has nothing to do with it. Here's my experience with HRO. I
ordered the MW-1 Wireless Microphone for my FT-5100 and it didn't work
right. I mean, what good is a wireless mic when you have to hold it an
inch away from the pickup for it to work?

I bought this item C.O.D. and it was almost two weeks later that I
returned it. It took them almost a month to issue a refund check. Now,
here's what I wonder about. If I had gone up to Salem and demanded a
refund they more than likely would have given it to me. Instead, I had

to wait for their corporate in CALIFORNIA to issue the damned check. Not good as far as I'm concerned.

But, on the plus side. I ordered by FT-5100 (which I only paid \$510 for, what a deal) and the unit I got wasn't functioning properly. But not functioning properly I mean a 3:1 SWR on 2m, and a 1:1 SWR on 70cm no matter what antenna and feedline you hooked up to the radio. So whats my first guess? The built-in duplexer. I sent the radio back up to HRO in Salem. When it arrived, someone there named Barry examined the radio, allegedly hooked it up to a bird wattmeter and got a flat swr. The radio was sent back to me with a snide note that it checked out fine. A week later the radio totally died. I called and spoke to Jim the manager at Salem and he agreed to replace the radio from his stock. About four days went by after I shipped the radio (RI to NH is only 2 days max) and I called HRO to inquire about it. The guy who answered the phone told me it had to go back to Yaesu and be evaluated by them and they'd decide wether to repair or replace. By this time I was about to go ballistic and asked him to put Jim on the phone. But saved he was as Jim cleared it and I had a new radio next day. What it comes down to is NEVER, NEVER take no for an answer from the some of the salesppl at HRO. If you're not satisfied, demand to speak to the manager and take names down. It helps!

> Another lesson: you never know who will be reading your Usenet
> articles!

True but what I just wrote above is true and let them read away. Maybe they'll improve their service, or at least make it consistent. BTW, I'll still buy from HRO but now I'm getting a feel of how to play their game. :)

Tony

```
-----  
-- Anthony S. Pelliccio, n1mpq/aa      // A man who feels sees life as //  
-- system @ garlic.sbs.com           // a tragedy, a man who thinks  //  
-----// sees life as a comedy. (This //  
-- Flame Retardent Sysadmin         // was in my fortune cookie!)  //  
-----  
-- This is a calm .sig! --  
-----
```

Date: Wed, 10 Mar 1993 20:06:59 GMT
From: agate!howland.reston.ans.net!zaphod.mps.ohio-state.edu!sdd.hp.com!
hpscit.sc.hp.com!hplextra!hpl-opus!hpnmdla!alanb@ames.arpa
Subject: How do I ground the antenna?

To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In rec.radio.amateur.misc, rossi@gvlf9-q.gvl.unisys.com (Pete Rossi) writes:

>What is the best way to ground a VHF antenna that will be sitting on top
>of a 40 foot wooden mast?

>The most obvious way would probably be to simply run a single conductor
>ground wire (#12 or #10 or whatever) down alongside of the pole to a ground
>rod at the base...

>... BUT ...

>... wouldn't simply connecting the shield of the coax to the same ground rod
>at the base accomplish about the same thing?

>I would think that the braid of a good grade RG8 cable is probably at least
>as good as #10 copper.

Even if it isn't, grounding the coax shield at the base of the mast
will protect the shack from lightning strikes. (Although it might not
protect the antenna/coax/mast).

AL N1AL

Date: 10 Mar 93 16:51:46 MDT
From: dog.ee.lbl.gov!hellgate.utah.edu!cc.usu.edu!cannon!scott@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: J-pole for Satellite
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article 33929 ERICH FRANZ STOCKER writes:

>The ARRL Handbook describes a dual J-pole antenna (2m/70cm) that the
>author contends is practical for use with the PacSat. His contention was that
>LEO satellites really didn't need to have circular polarization to successfully
>communicate.

>

>Has anyone had any experiences using this type of antenna to transmit
>and receive from the LEO satellites.

>

>Also, is this antenna arrangement totally useless with the AOS-10 and AOS-13
>series?

>

>Would appreciate any information others might care to pass along.

>

>Erich Franz Stocker

>

>

Also, has anyone successfully used this dual J WITHOUT a duplexer filter??

Scott R. Cannon, PhD scott@cannon.cs.usu.edu
Dept. of Computer Science (801) 750-2015
Utah State Univ. FAX (801) 750-3265
Logan, UT. 84322-4205 N7LM0

Date: Thu, 11 Mar 1993 00:55:10 GMT
From: agate!spool.mu.edu!sgiblab!a2i!davidj@ames.arpa
Subject: Motorola HT-220 Mod help needed.
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In <kelvin.731608579@thed.uk22.bull.com> kelvin@thed.uk22.bull.com (Kelvin J. Hill) writes:

>I am trying to convert some Motorola HT-220 units for single channel
>UHF use so that they can be used by some prospective Novices here in
>the UK. Does anyone have details on the conversion to Amateur bands
>and info on alignment that they could provide me with.

The UHF HT220's will usually tune down to 445 MHz or so without any trouble. Sometimes you will need to exchange some of the tuning slugs (ferrite or aluminum) to bring the coils into the range you are using. All of this is clearly detailed in the manual, if you call Motorola with the full part number of the radio (Hx4FFNyzzzz where x is 2 or 3 for 1 or 4 watts, yyyy is the squelch, bandwidth and number of channels and z is the mod number), you can get a full manual for less than \$10.

73
WA6NMF
--

Josephson Engineering, San Jose California MICROPHONES
Tel/ 408-238-6062 Fax/ 408-238-6022 INSTRUMENTATION

Date: Wed, 10 Mar 1993 20:25:01 GMT
From: agate!howland.reston.ans.net!wupost!csus.edu!nic.csu.net!eis.CalState.EDU!
sadams@ames.arpa
Subject: Old Satellite Dish

To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I'm a fairly new HAM with an old satellite dish that is no longer used.
It was one of the stationary type.
Is it of any use to me for any future HAM use?
Or should I just junk it?

--

Date: 10 Mar 1993 07:26:32 -0800
From: pacbell.com!amdahl!key!not-for-mail@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: PC Software for Code Practice
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

dbraun@cad636.intel.com (Doug Braun) writes:

>Do any FTP sites have any PC software to generate Morse code for practicing?
>I looked on ftp.cd.buffalo.edu and wuarchive.wustl.edu and could not dig up
anything.

I just had the same problem!! You need a copy of SuperMorse. The file
name is sm316.zip and its on simtel and the mirrors. Archie should be
able to find the file. If not, give me a yell and I'll email it or
something.

--

J. R. Pendleton, who does not speak for Key Computer Labs or Amdahl Inc.
uucp: jerryp@key.amdahl.com Voice : (510)623-2146 Amateur : KC6RT0
"Eagles soar, but weasels never get sucked into jet engines"
"Truly free people own guns"

Date: Wed, 10 Mar 1993 23:59:38 GMT
From: gsm001!gsm001.mendelson.com!gsm1rn@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Receiver Sensitivity figures
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <93069.125643U12566@uicvm.uic.edu> <U12566@uicvm.uic.edu> writes:

>
>I'm looking at specs for a NRD-535 receiver. Sensitivity is quoted in dBu,
>but I (being old fashioned!) am used to microvolt figures. How do I make the
>conversion?
>
>eg am sensitivity is rated at 6 dBu in 1.6-30 MHz range. (I am adaptable
>enough to translate cycles to Hertz)

I don't know how to convert the specs, but I recently upgraded from a r5000 to a 535D. The 535 is MUCH more sensitive. I used to use an ameco preamp with the r5000 for very weak signals. The 535D receives them without the preamp.

As I just passed the technician's test, now I would by the transceiver version of it (JST-135?) instead. However, IMHO do not buy the "D" version if looking for a receiver only. The ECSS has the bad habit on some stations (and of course it's the one my XYL bought and I the radio to listen to) of giving up with a loud. painful, "WUMP". The variable bandwidth control is not saved in memory, the filter setting (aka bandwidth) is. The 1khz filter is too narrow for ssb and too wide for cw while also being redundant with the variable bandwidth option.

On the whole it is a great receiver and works very well.

The r5000 is sitting in my "shack" (waiting for my ticket to arrive in mid June). I'll probably sell it and an transceiver.

Geoff.

--

Geoffrey S. Mendelson

(215) 242-8712

gsm@mendelson.com

or uunet!gsm001!gsm

Passed Technician test!

(Ham Radio) 3/4/93

Date: Wed, 10 Mar 1993 20:18:56 GMT

From: agate!howland.reston.ans.net!usc!rpi!sarah!cook!psinntp!psinntp!balltown!cabot!perley@ames.arpa

Subject: Rubber radios? (was Re: Periphex Doesn't Suck)

To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <11021@news.duke.edu> jbs@ee.egr.duke.edu (Joe B. Simpson) writes:

Would there be any good reason not to manufacture an HT covered in, say, 1/16" of neoprene or some other rubber-like substance? It just might make it a lot harder to damage internal parts and such when dropped from small heights.

You can get external leather covers for many. The big problem seems to be battery attachment, and the solutions seems to be putting the battery inside the case as commercial HT's generally do.

A local ham dropped his Kenwood (77 I think) over 100 feet onto concrete. Wouldn't you know the battery pack broke? It still worked ok from the cigarette lighter adapter (and eventually a new pack).

-don perley - ke2tp

--

perley@balltown.cma.com

Date: Wed, 10 Mar 1993 20:50:58 GMT
From: dog.ee.lbl.gov!pasteur!agate!howland.reston.ans.net!zaphod.mps.ohio-state.edu!sdd.hp.com!hpscit.sc.hp.com!hplextra!hpl-opus!hpnmdla!donrm@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: source for spools of wire
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In rec.radio.amateur.misc, tonyp@convex.com (honey bunny) writes:

> I need to get wire. Lots of wire. About 3,000' (holy rhombic, batman!)

Someone mentioned awhile back to look into electric fence wire. I don't know if it's strong enough to support its own weight over 600' or what the losses would be. Relatively cheap, though.

Don K6LTS
donrm@sr.hp.com

Date: Wed, 10 Mar 1993 20:15:19 GMT
From: agate!howland.reston.ans.net!zaphod.mps.ohio-state.edu!sdd.hp.com!hpscit.sc.hp.com!hplextra!hpl-opus!hpnmdla!alanb@ames.arpa
Subject: source for spools of wire
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In rec.radio.amateur.misc, tonyp@convex.com (honey bunny) writes:

>I need to get wire. Lots of wire. About 3,000' (holy rhombic, batman!)

>Does anyone know of a place that will sell small lots to the public?

>What is the best gauge to use - seeing as it will be spanning about
>600' non-stop (between tie points)?

>Is stranded or solid better?

People generally use Copperweld (copper-plated steel) wire for such purposes. Number 10 should be plenty strong enough.

AL N1AL

Date: Thu, 11 Mar 1993 03:53:08 GMT
From: usc!zaphod.mps.ohio-state.edu!moe.ksu.ksu.edu!osuunx.ucc.okstate.edu!olesun!
gcouger@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: source for spools of wire
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <14570690@hpnmdla.sr.hp.com> donrm@hpnmdla.sr.hp.com (Don Montgomery)
writes:

>In rec.radio.amateur.misc, tonyp@convex.com (honey bunny) writes:

>

>> I need to get wire. Lots of wire. About 3,000' (holy rhombic, batman!)

>

>Someone mentioned awhile back to look into electric fence wire. I don't
>know if it's strong enough to support its own weight over 600' or what the
>losses would be. Relatively cheap, though.

If you use steel electric fence wire you will need to test it to see if its
going to stretch when you get it up. I once had a string of electric fence
laying on the ground after a 60 mile an hour wind and a bunch of tumble weeds
hit it. When putting up a run of wire very long you need to stretch it tight
with a block and tackle or some such. Don't stretch it as tight when it is hot
as when it is cool.

I don't know how to tell you how much to stretch wire. You might try breaking
some short lengths but be careful when steel wire breaks it comes back at you
very fast.

Gordon AB5Dg
Gordon Couger
Agriculture Engineering Oklahoma State University
114 Ag Hall, Stillwater, OK 74074
gcouger@olesun.agen.okstate.edu 405-744-9763 day 624-2855 evenings

Date: Wed, 10 Mar 1993 23:48:38 GMT
From: haven.umd.edu!darwin.sura.net!rouge!cfm1471@ames.arpa
Subject: Wanted Swan 508 or 510 VFO
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Wanted: Swan model 508 or 510 VFO. In working or almost working condition.
Please contact me here or Bob Hess KB5AWT at K5ARH.LA (packet), or call
Bob at 318-233-0862 in Lafayette, La.

Thanks

```
=====
| Charles Morrison      | cfm1471@ucs.usl.edu | These are my views, |
| KI5XP                | ki5xp@ucs.usl.edu  | NOT anyone elses!   |
| U. of S'Western      | ki5xp@ki5xp.aara.org | But who cares?      |
|   La.                | KI5XP @ K5ARH.LA    |                      |
| Lafayette, La 70506   |                      |                      |
=====
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End of Info-Hams Digest V93 #302
